



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Decision Notice Central Montana Shooting Complex Shooting Range Grant Lewistown October 31, 2009

The Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks released a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) on July 31, 2009 for review and public comment regarding a proposal to provide \$28,565.00 in partial funding towards construction of a sporting clays range. The range is located in Fergus County Montana at T15N, R18E Sec. 3: lots 1 & 2, S1/2 Ne ¼; approximately 2 miles North of Lewistown, MT.

The Draft EA was posted on FWP's web site July 31, 2009 and a release was sent out of the FWP region four office on August 1, 2009. A notice appeared in the **Lewistown Argus** newspaper on August 5th, and in the **Great Falls Tribune** on August 20th. The deadline for public comment was August 31.

FWP received a comment from the State Historic Preservation Office:

Based on the lack of previous inventory and the ground disturbance required by this undertaking we feel that this project has the potential to impact cultural properties. We, therefore, recommend that a cultural resource inventory be conducted in order to determine whether or not sites exist and if they will be impacted.

FWP Response: this project uses no federal funds nor does it takes place on state owned or controlled property; therefore, the Federal 106 Regulations and the State Antiques Act do not apply. FWP will forward these comments on to the Central Montana Shooting Range Complex.

FWP also received a comment in support of the project:

"I am in favor of Alternative A to finish construction of a sporting clays course as outlined in Para. 2 & 10. This provides additional recreational opportunities in the area and is good economics with participation, events, and tournaments. It also has potential for youth involvement."

Based on this environmental review I recommend that funding for this proposed project is approved and the project should precede.

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